Abstract

The present invention is directed to a method and system for interfacing with various monitoring information sources from one or more computer systems with minimal user input. Each computer system may include one or more computers as well as any number of devices such as networking devices. Expert knowledge may be embedded in the data source monitoring software. These sources can later be used by data collection tools in order to extract monitoring information and present the information to the user or use it in another way (such as storing it or raising an alert when a certain monitored value exceeds a threshold). Furthermore, the user may decide which sources of information should be monitored by the data collection tools. The user may also use the present invention in order to inform him/herself of the configuration of the system he/she is monitoring.